



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

One hundred seventy-six years ago, delegates from throughout what was then known as the Mexican Department of Texas convened at Washington-on-the-Brazos and signed the Texas Declaration of Independence. It was a bold move that divided Texans from their national government in Mexico City and birthed a new nation.

Though hastily gathered on the banks of the Brazos River, those delegates openly declared a simple and basic truth: When a government ceases to protect the lives, liberty and property of the people from whom its legitimate powers are derived, that government becomes an instrument in the hands of evil rulers for the oppression of the people for whose happiness it was instituted.

From the fall of 1835 to spring 1836, Texans of all backgrounds banded together to continue the fight for liberty and freedom. It was a daunting struggle, and Texans endured great hardship and momentary setbacks, most notably at the Alamo and Goliad. But with determination and perseverance, Texan forces under Sam Houston defeated Santa Ana at San Jacinto. The war ended and the Republic of Texas was born.

Beginning with the issuance of the Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836, the Republic of Texas stood as a free, sovereign and independent republic for nine years. I encourage all Texans to learn more about, reflect on and take pride in our unique and special history.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim March 2, 2012, to be

Texas Independence Day



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
21st day of February, 2012.

Rick Perry
Governor of Texas